

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:3-6.8-11; Luke 3:1-6
8th December 2024

Welcome / Intercessions	Saturday 5:00 pm Mavicle Auva'a	Sunday 8:30 am Violet Aita	Sunday 10:30 am Danae Anthony	Tongan Mass Sunday 2:00pm Sela Kaloni
Ministers of the Word	Lumepa Soo Choon Normita Tolentino	Leni Erlano Tevita Koloamatangi	Odelon Resurreccion Rebecca Resurreccion	Jane Fetu'u Rosalie Petelo
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion	Jovita Parker Peter Foster Aran Silverio Evangeline Moverley Raquel Sanga	Letisia Koloamatangi Celerina Robertson James Obeng Shyamalee Krone Vincent Ortiz	Rolando Reyes Christian Sison Sahlee Cortez Jane Castrillo Jennifer Annelato Mary Jane Dumalaon	Fakalelu Paseka Letisia Koloamatangi Anna Cullen
Altar Servers	Frankie Aita Edith Aita Albertus Lautua	Jeevani Krone Aja Vatau Luca Vatau	Pedan Tulaga James Santos Daniel Kaloni	Mele Kaloni Lupea Kaloni Oliver Kiutau

PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT

"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"



Online Donations:

PAPAKURA CAPITAL PRO ACCOUNT 02-0108-0707147-004

REF: Build Fund

For automatic pledge giving:

PAPAKURA PARISH ACCOUNT 02-0108-0707147-000

REF: Pledge Number or Name

Your support is most appreciated!

Please contact Parish office for receipts.

Please Note
 (Email or call parish office to include the names for the item below)

SICK PARISHIONERS
We pray for those who are sick, especially:

Audrea Warner, Tony Starbuck, Arthur Solomon, Terry Brunton, Lisa Matt, Judge Carpio, Bryan Wannell, Brian O'Leary, Rosario Tamin, John Ram Krishna, Rodolfo Tolentino and Graham Reed

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES
We pray for our dearly departed with anniversaries of death

David Bruce Pullan, Catherine Schuller, Michelle Toxopeus, Trevor Norman Davis

May they rest in peace. Amen



New to the Parish? Welcome to St. Mary's Catholic Church. Please visit our website at www.papakuracatholic.org.nz and register online or you are very welcome to visit us at the parish office. (Office hours 9am– 3pm, Mon–Fri) Thank you

Locals Supporting Locals

HARVEYS REAL ESTATE EST. 1918

Thinking about selling?

We can help you get your home sold or rented!

Kelly, Darren and their family have been part of our parish and the school for over 20 years.

We offer a full real estate service to our fellow parishioners and when successful not only do you get rewarded, so does the parish. We look forward to being of service to you.



Newsletter proudly sponsored by Harveys Papakura

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St Mary's Catholic Church

A listening, praying, servant community

46 East Street, Papakura 2110

www.papakuracatholic.org.nz

Facebook: [St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysParishCatholicChurchPapakura)

Parish Priest: Fr Mathew Vadakkevettuvazhiyil
 Email: parishpriest@stmaryspapakura.org.nz
 Presbytery: 09 298 5134
 Fr. Mathew: 021 2090210 (Preferably text messages)
Parish Secretary: Roleta Aranda 09 299 6056
 Email: office@stmaryspapakura.org.nz
Pastoral Associate: Benita Kiutau 09 2996056
 Email: pastoral@stmaryspapakura.org.nz



St Mary's Catholic School
 Principal: Audrey Kippen
 Ph 09 298 4450

Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School
 Principal: Peta Lindstrom
 Ph 09 296 9039

St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College
 Principal: Dean Wearmouth

1ST DECEMBER - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Jeremiah 33:14-16; Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Advent: A Season of Hope and Preparation

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we enter the beautiful season of Advent, the Church invites us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Advent, derived from the Latin word *Adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival," is a time of joyful expectation and spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas and for his second coming at the end of time.

Advent is rich in meaning, rooted deeply in Scripture and Tradition. The prophet Isaiah for etold the coming of the Messiah, proclaiming, *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who lived in a land of gloom, a light has shone"* (Isaiah 9:2). This promise of hope was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, whose birth we eagerly anticipate.

The Church has traditionally marked this season with four weeks of prayer, penance, and reflection. The Advent wreath, with its four candles, symbolizes the journey of humanity from darkness to light, culminating in the radiant joy of Christ's birth. Each week, we light a candle that represents hope, peace, joy, and love, recalling God's faithful promises and his immeasurable love for us.

Advent also reminds us to prepare for Christ's second coming. In the Gospel, Jesus describes cosmic signs that will precede his return: *"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations"* (Lk 21: 25). Amid the turmoil, believers are encouraged to hope: *"Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near"* (Lk 21: 28).

As we reflect on these words, we take to heart the call of Jesus to vigilance. He warns against spiritual complacency: *"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life"* (Lk 21: 34). Jesus exhorts believers to pray and stay alert, emphasizing that the day of his coming will surprise many.

Let us embrace this sacred season with hearts open to God's grace. Participate in the celebration of Mass as a family, spend time in prayer, and share acts of kindness with those in need. In doing so, we prepare not only to celebrate Christ's birth but to welcome him more fully into our lives.

May this Advent be a time of renewal, hope, and deepening of faith for you and for your families. God bless.

In Christ

Fr. Mathew Vadakkevettuvazhiyil

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday
 8:30am & Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday
 8:30am & 10:30am

Second Sunday of the month
 Baptism during 10:30am mass

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - 9:00am
Tuesday - 6:30pm
Wednesday - 6:30pm
Thursday - 9:30am
Friday - 9:00am

First Fridays of month 10:00am

First Saturdays of the month
Anointings of the Sick - 8:30am

ETHNIC MASSES

Filipino language 1st Sunday
 2:00pm
Tongan Language 2nd Sunday
 2:00pm
Samoan Language 3rd Sunday
 12:00pm

RECONCILIATION

9:00 - 10:00am, Saturdays

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

Fridays 9:30am - 12:00pm

First Friday of month

10:00am - Mass
 10:30am - 12:00pm and
 6:30 - 7:30pm - Adoration &
 Benediction

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Tuesday & Wednesday - 6:00pm
Evening Prayer (VESPER)

Sunday - 8:00am
Morning Prayer (LAUDS)

RETIREMENT VILLAGE MASS

Longford - 2nd Tuesday, 11:00am
Summerset - 3rd Tue, 10:30am (TBC)

Welcome to St Mary's Parish

Holy Rosary: 8:30, 5:30p.m. Monday to Friday
Stations of the Cross: 5pm Fridays. Michael 298 9295
The statue of Our Lady is available for families, add your name to the list in the foyer or ph Jean 027 2982327
SMYFs (St Mary's Youth Family)- Bringing Youth Closer to Christ. We welcome all youth aged 10 & up to join us for our monthly youth sessions. We delve into scripture while growing closer with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Contact 021 084 04602, smarysyoungfamily@gmail.com for more info, or check out our Facebook Smyfs Papakura and Instagram @smyfs_.

Next youth session is: **13 December, 7-9pm Hall.** All welcome

Legion of Mary Senior Presidium: Mondays 6:15pm, hall committee room.
Legion of Mary Junior Presidium: Fridays 5-6pm, Ryder room. Celerina 298 4080
Medjugorje prayer meetings: Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297
Meditation Groups: Tuesdays 9.40am Fr Ryder Rm. (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)
Knitting group: each 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292
St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Office: Food parcels please phone for an appointment. Mob: 021 026 71430
St Vincent de Paul Shop: Mon—Fri 10:00-3:00pm Sat 10:00-1:00pm 275 Great South Rd, 296 5052
The Knights Of The Southern Cross—Richard Power
Lay Camillian Family NZ Ministry to the sick—Dennis Sanga dtbsanga@gmail.com
Music Ministry Team - Singing and music practice for our Sunday Masses - Wednesday at 7:15pm. All welcome.
St. Mary's Women's Group - Friday, 1:00-3:30pm, Ryder room - Brigid 021 02345439 or Jackie 021 02358939. No meeting during school holidays. All welcome

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY PAKAKURA Food bank



Will be open on Thursday mornings by appointment for clients to pick up their pre-booked parcels.
 To request food assistance please phone **021 02671430** to give your details and you will be given an appointment time for collecting a food parcel.

St Mary's Parish Women's Group

This week we discussed The Coming of the Son of Man. As a group we decided to focus on the positive aspect of this gospel, that is, to be prepared everyday for encountering Christ. Hence to be aware of Christ in all our daily acts of living and live accordingly.

Free Clothing

St Mary's Women's Group will be offering second-hand clothing free of charge after 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 8th December** Please come and help yourself! Enquiries phone: **Brigid 021.0234.5439** or **Jackie 021 023 58939**

Signing of School Preference form

Every Wednesday between 8:00 - 9:00 am and 1:00 - 4:00pm Please call parish office to book an appointment or walk in are all welcome.

Announcements from Diocese

Year of Jubilee Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as a Year of Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope. As well as local initiatives the diocese has a calendar of **Jubilee Events**. At this stage they are presented as date claimers so that you can put them in your diaries so that when notification of registrations been opened your calendars are free. Explore and return regular to <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/jubilee2025/jubilee-calendar/>

Pope Francis has just released his latest encyclical, "Delexit Nos", He loved us, in the last couple of days and I will host a series of 3 sessions on this in Advent, **4th, 11th, 18th December, 7 – 7.30pm** on Zoom. Contact Dianna: diannaf@cda.org.nz

Local Youth Ministers Wanted! The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated leaders to become paid Local Youth Ministers, working across both a secondary school and parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Food For Faith for Advent. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz to prepare for Christmas receiving daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor's Food For Faith website.

IMMIGRATION ADVISE

Rebecca Burges is offering an initial immigration advice free for 30 minutes on matters related to application, eligibility and problem solving around immigration matters. Contact her on 021 146 9842. Visit www.visadirectnz.co.nz



Christmas Crib / Nativity

Parish is looking for families to volunteer to prepare the crib in the Church Foyer. Please contact parish office.

Counties Catholic Mens' Fellowship will meet on Wednesday 4th December, at St Patrick's Church in Pukekohe starting with mass at 7:00pm, and then a meeting afterwards. New members welcome, come and join in our prayers for priests, for vocations, and for each other. Contact Richard 029 5335370, Michael 021 1258814 or Tim 027 2436211



Caretaker/Groundsperson Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School

Caretaker/Groundsperson position available. 25 hours a week. Work hours are negotiable.

Main responsibilities are maintenance and repair tasks, lawn and garden maintenance and property oversight. There may be an opportunity for further hours.

For further inquiries please contact our Office Administrator - Carmel Stewart 09 296 9039 or email your application to office@holyltrinity.school.nz.

Parish News and Updates



Christmas and New year Masses

Tuesday, 24th December
 6:30 pm - Christmas Carols
 7:00 pm - Vigil Mass
 10:00 pm - Christmas Carols
 11:00 pm - Christmas Mass at Night

Wednesday, 25th December
 9:00 am - Christmas Mass

Tuesday, 31st December
 6:30 pm - New Year's Eve Mass

Wednesday, 1st January 2025
 6:30 pm - Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sacramental Programme 2025

Registration form is available on our website. Parents are requested to submit the forms with Baptismal Certificate not later than **17 January 2025**.

Baptism for children aged 7—12 yrs old

We are happy to invite Catholic parent(s) who have children not yet baptized, but open to baptism in the Catholic Church. We shall enter into a process of discernment and faith formation before baptizing them. Contact the parish office.

Catholics Returning Home

You may know someone in your circle of friends who left our worshipping community. As God is always searching and waiting for us patiently, we are happy to visit them and begin a process of dialogue with them. Contact the parish office.

"St Mary's Talent Quest Fund Raiser"

Postponed for this year. Details to follow next year.



Weekday Readings, 2nd – 6th December

Monday	Isaiah 2:1-5; Ps.122; Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday	St. Francis Xavier, P Isaiah 11:1-10; Ps.72; Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday	Isaiah 25:6-10; Ps.23; Mathew 15:29-37
Thursday	Isaiah 26:1-6; Ps.118; Matthew 7:21.24-27
Friday	Isaiah 29:17-24; Ps.27; Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday	Isaiah 30:19:21.23-26; Ps.147A; Mathew 9:35-10:1.6-8

Dates for your Diary	
Thu, 5 Dec	Parish Liturgy Meeting, Ryder rm, 7pm
Sun, 8 Dec	Ecumenical Advent Celebration, 7pm, St Marys Parish. Shared supper after the service in the hall.
Fri, 13 Dec	Advent Reconciliation Rite II, 7:00 pm, Church.
Sat / Sun 14 & 15 Dec	Interview of the children on Sacramental Programme, 1:00 to 4:00 pm
17-18 Dec	During the days of Christmas Novena, the parish mass timings remain the same.

THE PARISH NEEDS YOUR TIME

- ONE HOUR a week as Power point operator for each mass
- ONE HOUR a week as Eftpos operator for each mass
- ONE HOUR per week to count the mass collections
- TWO HOURS a month to be minute takers of the meeting for Parish Pastoral Council Committee and Liturgy Committee (choose only one)
- ONE HOUR OR TWO to clean the Church, Hall or Ryder room (choose only one per group or family)
- ONE HOUR a week to take Holy Communion to the homebound.
- You may have talents which you want make known to parish. Contact us.

Building Inspection

The Finance Committee is seeking a volunteer(s) to inspect all the parish buildings and to submit a report. The report will enable the Finance Committee to budget and prioritize maintenance of all buildings. Kindly contact the parish office.

Presentation of Gifts during Masses

We encourage families to volunteer to take the gifts of bread and wine to the priest at the offertory. Please contact parish office to book your time.

Catechists needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word

We earnestly seek parishioners to help the Children with the Liturgy of the Word. It is a ministry to proclaim the Word of God to the children and help them understand the Word at their level. Those who come forward will be given all help to get trained in this wonderful ministry. Kindly contact the parish office.



Host for next weekend:
8th Dec
 10:30am - CFC
 To support please call parish

Columban Calendar 2025 now available at the parish office \$13 each



Parish Needs You - Car Park Attendant

The parish is looking for volunteers to help out in managing our car parks for each Mass on the weekends. You will be delighted to see many smiling faces and greet and receive them as they drive to church. Please contact the parish office for details.